

Appl. No. 10/022,329
Resp. dated March 29, 2004

What is claimed is:

- 1) (Currently amended) A nonwoven material for personal care products comprising superabsorbent fibers in an amount of at least 40 weight percent and binder in an amount of between 10 and 60 weight percent, in a web of Z-directionally oriented web fibers.
- 2) (Original) The nonwoven of claim 1 further wherein said binder is synthetic bicomponent fibers.
- 3) (Original) The nonwoven of claim 2 further comprising natural fibers in an amount of at most 40 weight percent.
- 4) (Original) The nonwoven of claim 3 further comprising synthetic polymeric fibers selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters, polyethers, polyethylene terephthalate and combinations thereof.
- 5) (Original) A diaper comprising the material of claim 3.
- 6) (Original) A training pant comprising the material of claim 3.
- 7) (Original) An incontinence product comprising the material of claim 3.
- 8) (Original) A bandage comprising the material of claim 3.
- 9) (Original) A sanitary napkin comprising the material of claim 3.
- 10) (Currently amended) A nonwoven material for personal care products comprising superabsorbent fibers in an amount of at least 50 weight percent, polypropylene/polyethylene bicomponent fiber in amount of at least 20 weight percent, in a web of Z-directionally oriented web fibers.
- 11) (Original) The nonwoven of claim 10 further comprising natural fibers wherein said natural fibers are hydrophilic.
- 12) (Original) The nonwoven of claim 11 wherein said natural fiber is selected from the group consisting of cotton, pulp and rayon.

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- 13) (Original) A diaper comprising the material of claim 12.
- 14) (Original) A training pant comprising the material of claim 12.
- 15) (Original) An incontinence product comprising the material of claim 12.
- 16) (Original) A bandage comprising the material of claim 12.
- 17) (Original) A sanitary napkin comprising the material of claim 12.
- 18) (Currently amended) A nonwoven material for personal care products comprising
superabsorbent fibers in an amount of at least 60 weight percent,
polypropylene/polyethylene bicomponent fiber in amount of about 30 weight percent,
and rayon fibers, in a web of Z-directionally oriented web fibers.
- 19) (Original) A nonwoven material for personal care products comprising a Z-
directionally oriented web having an intake rate at 50 percent saturation of at least 7
cc/s and a capacity of at least 4 g/g.
- 20) (Original) The nonwoven material according to claim 19 having an intake rate at 50
percent saturation of at least 8 cc/s and a capacity of at least 6 g/g.
- 21) (Original) The nonwoven material according to claim 19 having an intake rate at 50
percent saturation of at least 8 cc/s and a capacity of at least 10 g/g.
- 22) (Currently amended) A nonwoven material for personal care products comprising
superabsorbent fibers in an amount of at least 50 weight percent,
polypropylene/polyethylene bicomponent fiber in amount of at least 20 weight
percent, in a web of Z-directionally oriented web fibers, wherein said web has an
Intake rate at 50 percent saturation of at least 7 cc/s and a capacity of at least 4 g/g.